

## BLAMES WEST SIDE DELAY FOR FAMINE

Coal Shortage Could Have  
Been Averted Otherwise,  
Says Ira Place.

### URGES OTTINGER BILL

Van Benschoten Says McAdoo  
Demands Quick Action—  
Craig Wires Opposition.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

ALBANY, Feb. 27.—There would have been no coal famine or freight congestion in New York city during the past winter, in the opinion of Ira A. Place, counsel for the New York Central Railroad Company, if the solution of the West Side freight terminal problem had not been made the football of politics for several years before the war.

Mr. Place was discussing a telegram sent by Charles L. Craig, City Comptroller, to the Senate Cities Committee opposing, on behalf of the additional Board of Estimate and Apportionment, the Ottinger bill, which creates a terminal improvement commission to solve the New York Central West Side freight problem.

This bill was prepared by the commission appointed by Gov. Whitman, of which William H. Van Benschoten is chairman. It provides for a commission of seven members composed of the New York City Mayor and Comptroller, two members of the New York City Public Service Commission, and three other members to be appointed by Gov. Whitman.

### Hervey Opposes Bill.

"This commission is to supersede the New York City Public Service Commission and Board of Estimate and Apportionment in the solving of this problem," Public Service Commissioner Hervey said at the hearing on the bill today declared it was unnecessary to establish a new commission and that any additional power needed to settle this question should be given to the Public Service Commission and the Board of Estimate.

R. A. McAdoo, representing the City Union, thought the Public Service Commission should be permitted to complete its plan for a West Side subway, but that it should not be finally passed upon unless approved by the New York and New Jersey Commission, which is working on a plan to improve the Port of New York, both in New York and New Jersey.

Richard C. Harrison, representing the City Club, thought the work should be taken away from the Public Service Commission and the Board of Estimate and devolved upon a commission of broader vision like the New York and New Jersey Commission.

Place declared that the Elmhurst avenue track question should be settled like

other grade crossing problems in Buffalo, Rochester, Utica and Albany.

"A problem ten times more difficult was solved when the Grand Central passenger terminal was completed," said Mr. Place. "We should be permitted to effect a similar improvement in our freight terminal. This question has been a political football for the past ten years. Otherwise, it would have been completed before the war, and there would not have been the coal and food scarcity last winter, due to lack of transportation facilities."

### Halted by Unthinking Howlers.

"We cannot now lay an additional track or spur on the West Side. We should have been permitted to make this improvement when money was cheap. The Director of Railroads at Washington might not now permit us to spend the \$50,000,000 which this improvement would cost, but if you would establish a commission with full power we could accomplish much temporarily to facilitate freight movements with a small expenditure."

This improvement has been halted for years because of the howling of unthinking regarding the granting of permanent easements and valuable land to the New York Central when as a matter of fact such things are more chicken feed compared with the big increased taxable values which would result when our freight improvements are completed along the West Side, which now is a business standpoint is practically a Sahara.

"Before our passenger terminal at Forty-second street was completed the New York Central paid \$700,000 a year on its property there. Now we pay \$3,000,000 a year, and this does not take into consideration the increased value of our real estate not owned by the Central in that region. What is needed is a commission with power and intelligence which will have the courage to carry out any plan it may decide upon."

"We need a commission that will get right on the job and put this thing over," said Chairman Van Benschoten. "The commission of which I am the lead feels that the West Side freight terminal proposition can be proceeded with at once and planned so that it will fit into any general harbor improvement plan that may be suggested in two or three years from now by the New York and New Jersey Port Improvement Commission, which has just asked the Legislature for two years in which to make an investigation."

### Says McAdoo Demands Action.

"The West Side freight problem cannot wait that long. The people of New York city this winter paid a fearful penalty through the delay in making the improvement and the nation's war commerce was delayed for weeks. You cannot delay the improvement another year. I have discussed the question with Mr. McAdoo and he says it should be dealt with at once. When big things are to be accomplished without undue delay it is necessary to place absolute power in somebody to accomplish results, and that is what we ask in the Ottinger bill."

In his telegram to the committee Comptroller Craig said:

"New York city is suffering too much already from numerous commissions and boards authorized to commit the city to great expenditure. Any of the purposes sought to be accomplished by this bill

can be more effectively attained through the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and Public Service Commission.

The new commission is authorized to obligate the city of New York without limitation under an agreement with the New York Central or other railroads for the cost of making changes and furnishing additional facilities. The proposed commission is given the power to do this without the consent of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

"Under this the debt margin of the city could be wiped out by this commission and the whole of its available debt incurred power utilized by the proposed commission to the exclusion of other public purposes such as schools, hospitals and water supply."

"The proposed commission is also authorized to sell or exchange the city's lands under water, parks and other public property. Under this authority the city of New York could be stripped of its entire waterfront."

"The principle of exchanging parcels of land owned by the city for railroad property so as to consolidate the ownership of the entire waterfront in the railroad company has been thoroughly condemned and disapproved."

### LOW RECORD FOR STRIKES.

Fewest in Department of Labor's History Take Place.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Not since the Department of Labor was organized have there been so few strikes in progress as at present, Secretary Wilson said today. Places where cessations of work have occurred are relatively few, and many of the strikes do not directly affect the war preparations. A number of them are strikes of street car operators.

Perhaps the most serious industrial dispute pending is the walkout of 5,000 metal trades workers in the Birmingham, Ala., district. Secretary Wilson said the Department's mediation service was in touch with the situation, and that additional mediators will be sent into the district if needed.

### ELECTION CASES DROPPED.

Seven Alleged Indiana Conspiracy Cases Discharged by Court.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 27.—Declaring that the Government had failed to establish its case as outlined in the indictment, Federal Judge A. R. Anderson today ordered the dismissal of the case against former Mayor Russell O. Johnson of Gary, Ind., and six other Republicans of Gary and Lake counties, who were charged with violation of the election law. The trial was started yesterday in Federal court here. The action of Judge Anderson came after the Government had introduced all of its evidence and an argument was heard on the question of whether a case had been made.

### \$120,000 Fire in Rochester.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 27.—A fire that threatened Rochester's factory district in the Mill street section this morning was confined to the plant of R. Whalen & Co., tobacco manufacturers, a five-story brick building, where it started, after the building had been partly burned. Several employees were injured. The loss is estimated at \$120,000.

## PACKING FIRM HAD AGENT IN CONGRESS

Eversman, Assistant Secretary  
of G. O. P. National Com-  
mittee, Was Envoy.

### GOT A SALARY OF \$2,500

Tried to Represent All Pack-  
ers, but Only Wilson & Co.  
Engaged Him.

CHICAGO, Feb. 27.—Letters setting forth the desire of John C. Eversman, recently secretary of the Republican Congressional Committee, and assistant secretary of the Republican National Committee, to represent the packers in Washington and of his employment by Wilson & Co. as their representative in the capital, were the final minutes of today's hearing of the Federal Trade Commission's investigation of the packing industry.

Mr. Eversman outlined in detail, according to letters introduced, his qualifications as the packers' Washington representative. Other letters introduced by Francis J. Heney, counsel for the commission, showed that the packers did not join in hiring Eversman, but that he was employed in the capacity he suggested by Wilson & Co. at a much smaller salary than he named in his negotiations with the five packing houses.

The first of the Eversman letters was dated Washington, D. C., May 5, 1917, and was addressed to Henry Veder of Chicago, counsel for Swift & Co. It read: "Fred Upham has explained the difficulty of getting the principle together, which, of course, I can appreciate. However, our friends here whose backing and cooperation I can count on are hoping that possibly things will come to a favorable head the forthcoming week. They are willing to help me organize the work so results will be produced."

In explaining this letter, which was taken from the Swift files, not from Veder's vault, Francis J. Heney introduced another written in the form of a memorandum which was discovered in the Armour files by agents of the commission.

This memorandum, Mr. Heney said, was written for the consideration of Armour, Swift, Morris, Wilson and Cudahy, who had under advisement the question of Eversman becoming their representative at Washington.

Another letter read was dated July 23, 1917, and signed by Eversman. It was addressed to C. D. Skipworth, vice-president of Wilson & Co., and said that Eversman had obtained a representative of a press association entitled to the privilege of the floor of Congress to represent the packers.

## BINGHAM WEALTH LARGELY IN OIL

Appraisal Shows Flagler  
Widow Held \$32,000,000  
in Standard's Stocks.

### JEWELS WORTH \$600,000

Her Interest in Flagler Trust  
Fund Is Placed at  
\$9,087,339.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 27.—The complete list of personal property owned by Mrs. Lily Flagler Bingham as well as the property held in trust under the heading "Flagler Trust Fund" was made public today. It shows Mrs. Bingham's taxable estate in Kentucky is worth \$68,000,000, with certain properties in Florida unlisted, because it is not taxable there.

There are other items which increase the value of the estate to more than \$70,000,000. The bulk of the estate is given in the will to Mrs. Laurence Lewis of New York, favorite niece of Mrs. Bingham. The chief property of Mrs. Bingham was in Standard Oil stock, in subsidiary companies, the largest single item being 4,800 shares of Standard Oil of Indiana, valued at \$2,824,000.

Here is a partial list of the holdings:

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Standard Oil stock             | \$2,824,000 |
| Florida East Coast Railroad    | 1,775,000   |
| Liberty bonds                  | 112,800     |
| Atlantic Coast                 | 100,000     |
| Cuban Railroad bonds           | 200,000     |
| Grand Western Power Co.        | 100,000     |
| Baltimore & Ohio               | 100,000     |
| Lexington & Eastern            | 100,000     |
| New York Central               | 100,000     |
| Southern Railway               | 100,000     |
| Magnolia Petroleum             | 100,000     |
| Interest in Flagler Trust Fund | 9,087,339   |

There are a large number of holdings in other concerns for smaller amounts, the lowest being a mortgage lien on land belonging to Barrus, Corcoran and Sue Corcoran in Virginia for \$10,000.

Mrs. Bingham's private railroad car Whitehall is valued at \$20,000. Her jewels are estimated to be worth more than \$600,000. Tiffany & Co. in New York have \$60,967 worth, while other jewels valued at \$454,975 are in Kentucky.

## NOTICE

To Hotels, Apartment Houses, Office Buildings  
and All Others Interested

Under the provisions of Chapter Four of the Laws of 1918 no person, partnership or corporation in any county bordering on the Hudson River or upon Long Island shall manufacture artificial ice after March 1, 1918, under a penalty of \$50 per day. This is to give notice that temporary permits pending application for permanent permit will be granted upon written application to the Ice Comptroller at his office, Room 3238, 120 Broadway, New York, if such application is made prior to February 28, 1918.

B. B. ODELL, Ice Comptroller.

### AMUSEMENTS.

WINTER GARDEN. Eves. Mat. Today. 8:15. **AL JOLSON & SIBBARD**. SUNDAY NIGHT CONCERT. Jolson and a Smashing Big Bill.

### FOLLOW THE GIRL

44th St. R. of Theatre. Where she will be seen for the first time. Next Sat. Night March 2 At 8:15.

### 44TH ST. R. of Theatre

Next Sat. Night March 2 At 8:15. Seats Now. Phone Bryant 61. New Musical Comedy by Henry W. Mason and Zerk Lawrence. Direction of Raymond Hitchcock and E. Ray Goff.

### MAYTIME

Charles Purcell. Pictur. W. & Sat. 8:15. Maxine Elliott's. Pictur. Eves. 8:30. Mat. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

### EYES OF YOUTH

LANE. "The Gipsy Trail". PLYMOUTH. 4:30. Eves. 8:15. Mat. 2:30. N. Y. Mat. 2:30. N. Y. Mat. 2:30.

### CORT FLO-FLO

MOROSCO. Eves. 8:15. Mat. 2:30. N. Y. Mat. 2:30. N. Y. Mat. 2:30.

### LOMBARDI, Ltd.

WORLD LOYALTY. RICHARD HILL. N. Y. Mat. 2:30. N. Y. Mat. 2:30.

### CASINO

Marbury. Shubert. 44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### PRINCESS

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### WOMAN AND THE LAW

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### Cheer Up!

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### HIPPOTRONE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### STRAND

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

## AMUSEMENTS.

EMPIRE. Eves. 8:15. Mat. 2:30. N. Y. Mat. 2:30.

### GAITY

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### SICK-A-BED

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### TAILOR-MADE MAN

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### ANGLIN "BILLETED"

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### FULTON

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### ELTINGE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### CRITERION

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### 7 DAYS LEAVE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### CENTURY

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### CHU CHIN CHOW

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### CENTURY THEATRE—TO-MORROW

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### ACTORS' FUND ANNUAL BENEFIT

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### ALMA GLUCK

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### COLOSSAL SPECTACLE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### PUNCH & JUDY

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### HER COUNTRY

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### COMEDY—WASH. SQ. PLAYERS

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### THE LITTLE TEACHER

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### LONGACRE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### YES OR NO

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### BIJOU

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

## AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK'S LEADING THEATRES AND SUCCESSORS

### EMPIRE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### GAITY

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### SICK-A-BED

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### LONGACRE

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### YES OR NO

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

## AMUSEMENTS.

GREATEST MUSICAL SHOW ON EARTH

### COHAN REVUE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### ZIEGFELD NEW

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### HUDSON

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### REPUBLIC

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### PARLOR

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### GOING UP

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### LYCEUM

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### TIGER ROSE

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### BELASCO

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.

### POLLY WAST

44th St. R. of Theatre. 44th St. R. of Theatre.